

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY CONTROL

ROOM 1015, RESOURCES BUILDING

1416 NINTH STREET • SACRAMENTO 95814

November 8, 1973

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER

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QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

Mr. Gerald Pera, Mayor
City of Half Moon Bay
501 Main Street
Half Moon Bay, Calif. 94019

Dear Mayor Pera:

This letter updates the status of the Clean Water Grant project for Half Moon Bay, Montara, and Granada.

We are unable to grant concept approval for the proposed regional project as requested in your letter of June 28, 1973. Concept approval can be given only after a thorough analysis is made of all alternatives. The only extensive engineering studies completed for the Half Moon Bay area have all indicated a one-plant system. Your proposal is counter to previous proposals and no engineering justification for the proposal has been provided. While we are not committed to a one-plant system for the area, we cannot approve any plan unless it is shown to be the most cost-effective alternative, based on a thorough engineering and environmental analysis. Before any regional plan can be approved for the area, a regional wastewater management study must be conducted for the entire area. Further, unless the City, Granada and Montara reach an agreement for the conduct of this regional study and for a central agency or joint-powers, agency having planning and implementation powers, we will not provide a grant to any of the three agencies.

It is quite unlikely that interim projects will be funded in view of the limited grant funds available. We are, therefore, looking at a more permanent solution to your problems.

It appears that a thorough evaluation of your regional problems on a joint basis is going to require additional technical studies prior to preparation of a project report. Further information will be needed on:

1. Outfall feasibility and location. The oceanographic study started by the city should be completed. Only with the completion of this work will it be possible to define an ocean outfall alternative.

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Mr. Gerald Pera, Mayor

-2-

November 8, 1973

2. Groundwater recharge. A program for possible deep well injection needs to be better defined. Additional field work and pilot testing will be required to determine the technical and economic feasibility of the groundwater recharge alternative. Any actual testing or pilot work requires approval of the State Water Resources Control Board if it is to be considered for a grant
3. Infiltration-inflow analysis. Such analysis shall be performed in accordance with federal guidelines.

A Step 1 construction grant is available for those applicants demonstrating that they have no other source of funds for such work (see Section 2124 of Clean Water Grant Regulations). An application packet, which has not yet been prepared, will be sent later when completed. Such a grant will be considered only if all three agencies get together, pay for and participate in the necessary Step 1 studies.

Sincerely,

Original Signed by

Larry F. Walker
Assistant Division Chief
Manager, Clean Water Grant Program

cc: Granada Sanitary District
Montara Sanitary District
BASSA
YTO, M. Burchett
RWQCB Bay Region, Attn: R. Scholar
EPA, Region IX, P. Perez